

Message Text

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ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0054
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 02750

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, US, NATO
SUBJECT: CEP: REVISION OF GUIDANCE TO TRANSPORT PLANNING
BOARDS AND COMMITTEES (PB&CS)

REF: (A) AC/281(LTP)REPORT(78)2,
- (B) DPP/CEPD/78/157, DTG 131630Z MAR 78 (NOTAL)

1. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE TIMETABLE FOR WORK PROPOSED
IN REF A THAT INVOLVES THE SENIOR CIVIL EMERGENCY PLANNING
COMMITTEE (SCEPC) AND ITS SUBORDINATE PB&CS IS SO TIGHT
THAT INTERIM GUIDANCE TO THESE BOARDS AND COMMITTEES IS
REQUIRED AT THIS TIME.

2. WE BELIEVE THAT IF THE PROPOSAL CONTAINED IN REFTEL B
IS APPROVED, THE DECISIONS REACHED DURING THE JUNE 1977
SCEPC MEETING IN PLENARY SESSION (AC/98-DS/121) MAY BE
PREMATURELY SET ASIDE IN FAVOR OF THE PROPOSALS ADVANCED BY
THE ACTING DIRECTOR CEP (FARRANT) THAT HAVE NOT BEEN
APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP (EWG) OR THE DPC
IN PERMANENT OR IN MINISTERIAL SESSION. FURTHER, IF THE
COURSE OF ACTION PROPOSED BY FARRANT IS FOLLOWED, IT MAY
CAUSE A SERIES OF FALSE STARTS IN THE PB&CS THAT WOULD BE
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TIME-CONSUMING AND RESULT IN A MISDIRECTED EFFORT THAT
WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO GET ON TRACK FOLLOWING THE DECISIONS
CONCERNING REINFORCEMENT THAT MAY RESULT FROM THE SPRING
MINISTERIAL AND THE SUMMIT.

3. WHILE WE DO NOT WISH TO IMPEDE THE PROGRESS OF THE
PB&CS IN SUPPORT OF THE LONG TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM (LTDP),

WE BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE UNWISE TO REDIRECT PB&C EFFORTS TO WORK THAT IS STILL SUBJECT TO APPROVAL WHEN FIRM DECISION UPON WHICH TO BASE A REDIRECTION OF PRIORITY FOR THE PB&CS WILL BE AVAILABLE IN TIME FOR CONSULTATION ON HOW TO ACCOMPLISH THE REQUIRED WORK DURING THE JUNE 1978 SCEPC PLENARY. AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE FARRANT PROPOSAL, WE BELIEVE THAT THE SPRING PB&CS SHOULD BE INFORMED OF THE POSSIBLE, REPEAT POSSIBLE, CHANGE IN WORK PROGRAMS AND THAT FIRM DIRECTION AND GUIDANCE WILL BE PROVIDED FOLLOWING THE JUNE 1978 SCEPC PLENARY.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE PRIOR TO MEETING OF SCEPC, NOW SCHEDULED FOR 0830 HOURS MARCH 22, 1978.
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Message Attributes

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